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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN WIGS OR HAIRPIECES

(71) We, MUELLER INTERNATIONAL ALBERT MULLER KG, of Oetzbergstrasse 1, D-6051 Ober-Roden, German Federal Republic, a German Company, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

10 This invention relates to wigs or hairpieces, the term wig herein including a hairpiece with a parting.

15 Conventional wigs or hairpieces usually consist each of a cap-like foundation net to which are secured knots of hair, lying close together. With such wigs, if there is a parting in a wig on the head, the net foundation is visible even with very close hair knots.

20 The object of the present invention is to provide a wig which can exhibit a parting of a more natural appearance.

25 According to the invention, a wig or hairpiece has a slit extending inwardly from the edge to represent a parting. Through such a slit, the scalp or natural head surface of the head of the wearer shows as a natural parting.

30 Preferably the edge of the slit is reinforced, to avoid gaping, and this can be effected by a U-shaped spring insert in the border of the slit and, if desired, extending round the corners of the mouth of the slit into the edge of the wig.

35 To aid a natural parting appearance, hair knots may be secured in a row close together along the edges of the sides of the slit.

40 Naturally, the slit need not be straight but may be curved, in which case the two arms of the spring are curved or bent correspondingly. The wig will thus give the impression of a curving parting if this is desired.

45 A wig in accordance with the invention is represented by way of example on the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a view of the inside of a wig, part of the foundation net being omitted;

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Fig. 2 shows, on an enlarged scale, the slit part of the wig of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is similar to Fig. 2 but with a spring insert along the slit edge, and

Fig. 4 shows the wig in place on a head.

As can be seen from Fig. 1, the wig comprises a cap-like foundation net 1, made substantially spherical to correspond to the shape of the head, over the areas 2 of which are secured hair knots. A rubber band 3 is applied to at least a part of the back edge of the wig, or this edge is otherwise made elastic, so that the wig can sit firmly on the head.

At any desired point in the front part of the wig the foundation net has a slit 4, which may be made curved or straight, so that when the wig is on the head the natural skin of the head is visible through the slit and thus the impression is produced of a parting drawn in natural hair. In order to prevent gaping of the slit 4 under the pull of the elastic 3, a reinforcement is provided along both sides 5 of the slit 4, on the inside of the wig, to oppose opening of the mouth 6 of the slit.

A particularly effective reinforcement of the slit 4 can be provided by stitching into the border 7 of the slit a spring insert 8, as shown in Fig. 3, consisting for example of a round or narrow leaf spring in a tubular border or hem. The spring 8 is U-shaped so that its arms extend parallel to one another and close together, the two free ends preferably being bent round the corners of the mouth 6 of the slit in such a way that they extend a little into the edge of the wig.

In order to produce the impression of a parting in a natural head of hair, hair knots are secured in a row along the edges of the sides 5 of the slit 4 and lying very close to one another.

Fig. 4 shows how a wig, in accordance with the invention, when applied to a head exhibits the slit R extending from the front edge of the wig substantially into the centre part of the head, the wig thus being divided

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into two component surfaces P and C. The natural head surface is visible through the slit R, so that in this way the impression of a natural hair parting is produced.

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WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A wig or hairpiece having a slit extending inwardly from the edge to represent a parting.

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2. A wig according to claim 1, in which the edge of the slit is reinforced.

3. A wig according to claim 2, in which the edge of the slit is reinforced by a spring insert in the border of the slit.

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4. A wig according to claim 3, in which

the spring insert is U-shaped and its ends extend around the corners of the mouth of the slit.

5. A wig according to any of claims 1 to 4, in which hair knots are secured in a row close together along the edges of the sides of the slit.

6. A wig with a parting slit substantially as described with reference to and as shown by the accompanying drawings.

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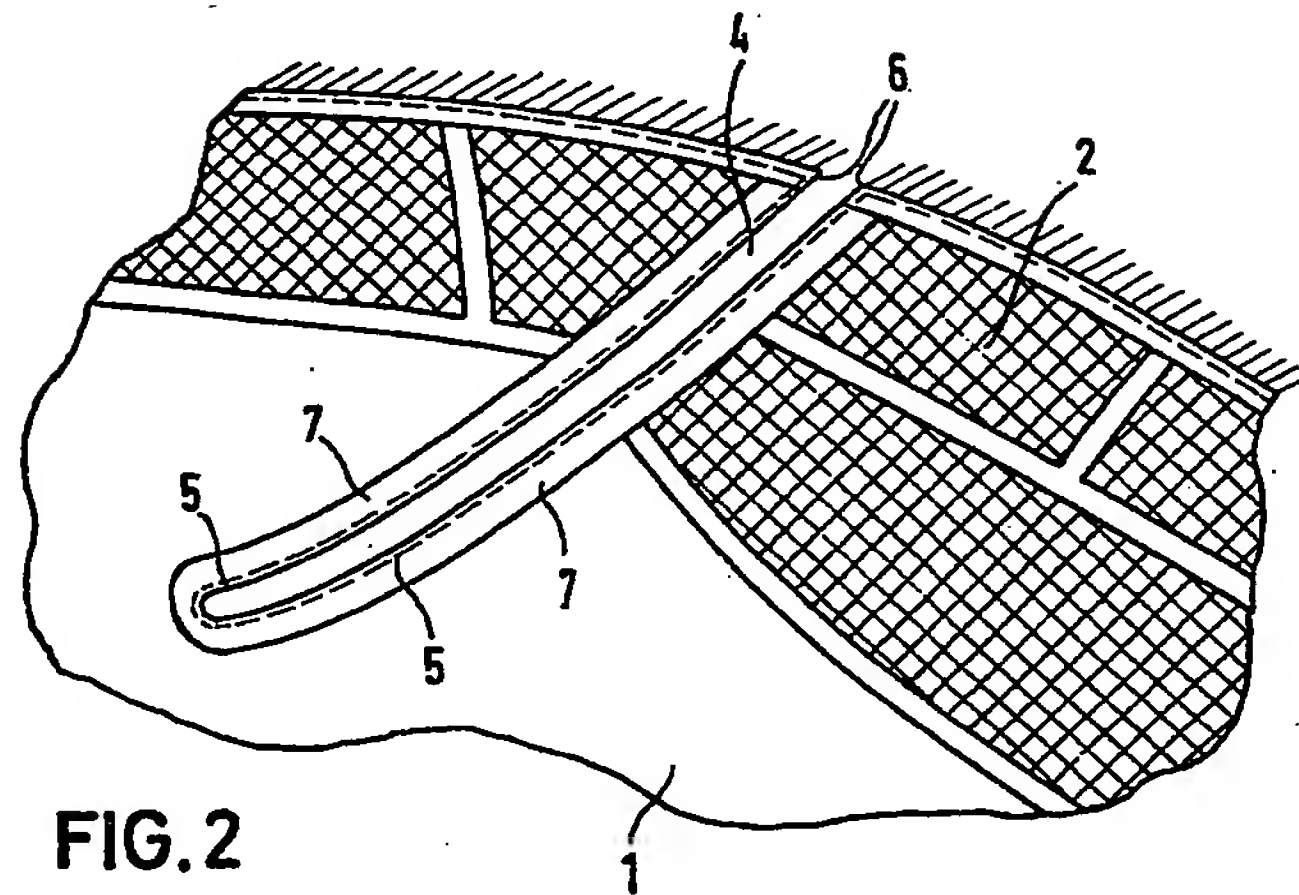
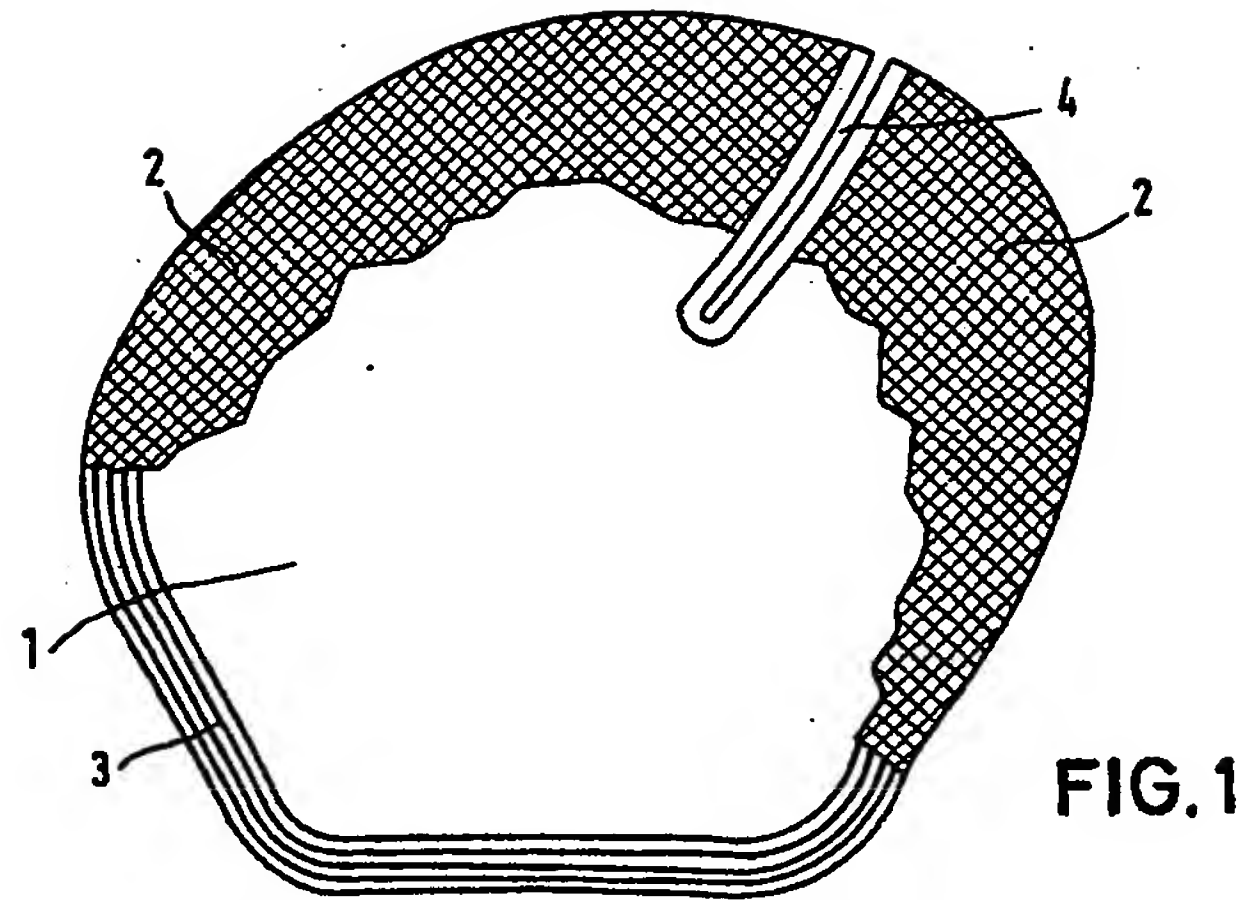


FIG.3

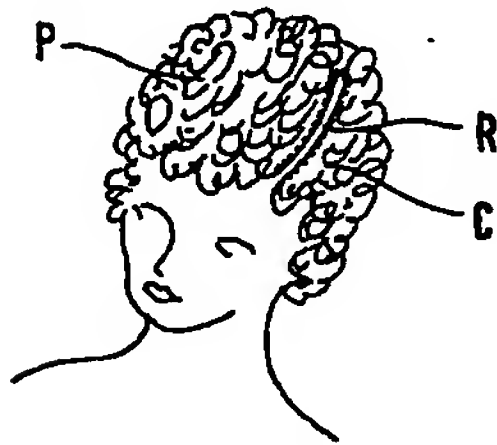
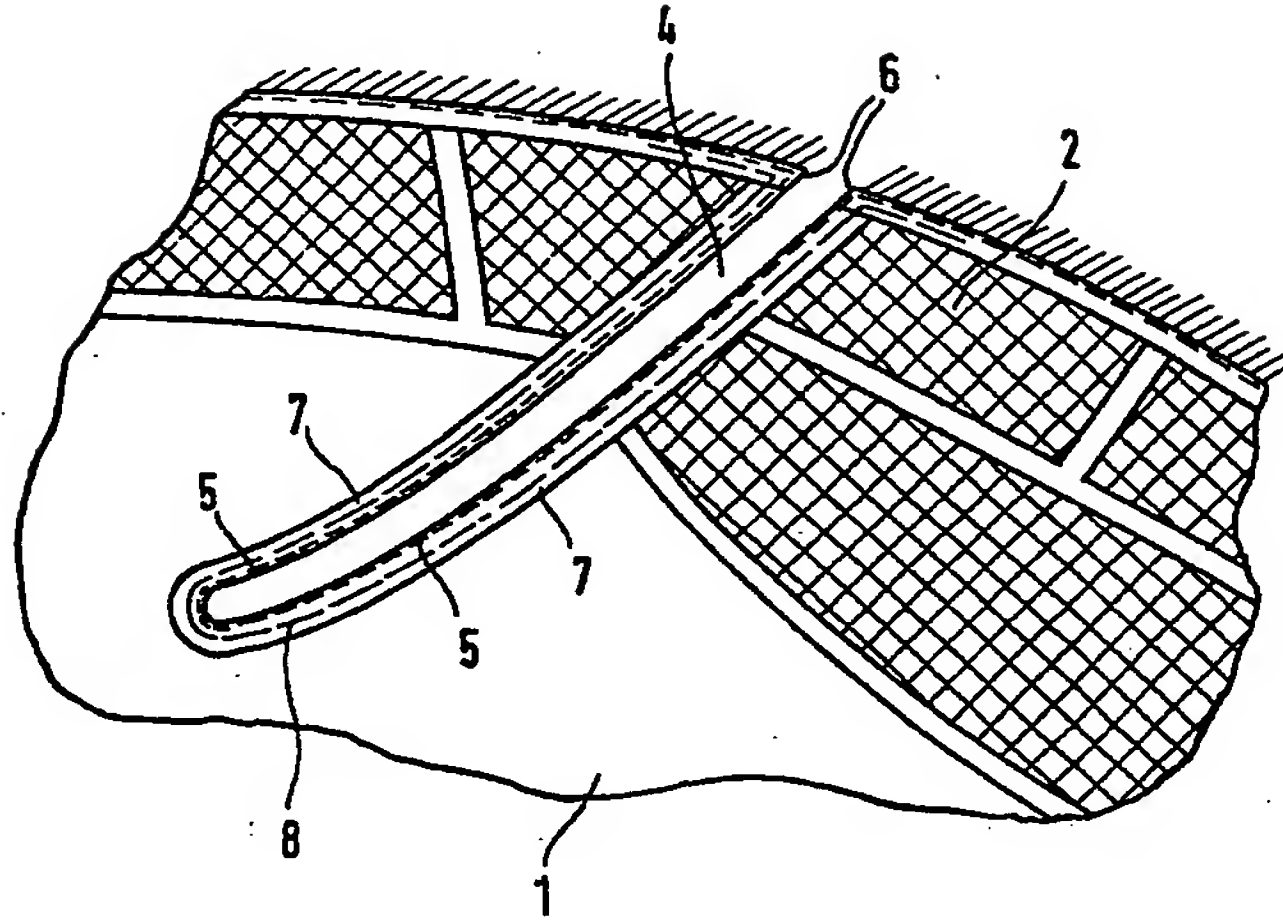


FIG.4